In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-16

17(New).   A method of routing interLATA network Traffic, comprising the steps of:

a) receiving a query from a first service switching point at a switching control point;

b) determining, based on the query, if a call is an interLATA call; and

c) when the call is the interLATA call, sending a routing message to a hub service switching point from the switching control point to the first service switching point.

18(New).   The method of claim 17, wherein step (c) further includes the steps of:

c1) sending a translated routing number.

19(New).   The method of claim 17, further including the steps of:

d) receiving a query from the hub service switching point at the switching control point;

e) determining, based on the query, if the call is to a second virtual network;

f) when the call is to the second virtual network, sending a response to route the call to a second hub service switching point in a second local access and transport area (LATA).

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20(New). The method of claim 19, wherein step (f) further includes the step of:

    f1) sending a primary trunk group as part of the response.

21(New). The method of claim 19, wherein step (f) further includes the step of:

    f1) sending an abbreviated dial code as part of the response.

22(New). The method of claim 19, further including the steps of:

    g) receiving a query from a second hub service switching point at the switching control point;
    h) sending a response that includes a routing instruction.

23(New). The method of claim 17, further including the steps of:

    d) receiving a query from a hub service switching point at the switching control point;
    e) determining, based on the query, if the call is to an out of network call;
    f) when the call is the out of network call, sending a routing response to an interexchange carrier point of presence.

24(New). A method of routing interLATA network Traffic, comprising the steps of:

a) determining if an interLATA call is between a first virtual private network and a second virtual private network;

b) when the interLATA call is between the first virtual private neetwork and a second virtual private network, routing the interLATA call over a tie line; and

c) when the interLATA call is not between the first virtual private network and a second virtual private network, routing the call to an interexchange carrier point of presence.

25(New). The method of claim 24, wherein step (b) further includes the steps of:

b1) routing the interLATA call to a first hub service switching point;

b1) routing the interLATA call over the tie line to a second hub service switching point.

26(New). The method of claim 24, wherein step (c) further includes the steps of:

c1) routing the interLATA call to a first hub service switching point;

c2) routing the interLATA call to the interexchange carrier point of presence.